The History of Student Activism (EDFI 845)

Though youth are often viewed as apathetic or politically naïve, student activists have changed the course of American history. For over a century, student activists have participated in social and political movements that directly challenged ideologies and policies pertaining to race, class, gender, sexuality, culture, religion, and language. This course examines the overlooked role of student activists who engaged in deliberate protest to demonstrate their dissatisfaction with American policies and customs to reimagine and actualize a more inclusive American democracy. With particular emphasis on the southern black freedom struggle, but drawing upon anti-war, peace, and feminist movements as well, this course examines the role of high schools and colleges in facilitating or inhibiting student activism, the rationale behind and motivations of student rebellion, the costs of participating in activism as youth, and the legacies and challenges of student activism today.

Instructor: Jon Hale, Ph.D. (jnhale@mailbox.sc.edu)
Tuesdays, 4:40-7:25 pm

Critical Race Theory (EDFI 747)

An introduction to Critical Race Theory (CRT) as a theoretical and methodological framework, students will study foundational and contemporary work from CRT scholars and the ways race and racism have shaped and continue to inform the educational system in the U.S. Students will analyze education issues in public education and higher education from CRT perspectives including: Latina/o CRT, Tribal CRT, and critical race feminisms.

Instructor: Allison Anders, Ph.D. (aanders@mailbox.sc.edu)
Thursdays, 4:40-7:25pm

Participatory Action Research (EDFI 834)

This class seeks to explore Participatory Action Research through the fundamental connection between critical social theory and qualitative research. We will engage in readings, discussion, and workshop techniques. The class is divided into three sections: 1) The Problems of Research: Why should research methodology be ‘decolonized’? What lineages of critique shape the practice and underlying theory of participatory research today?; 2) Methods in Practice: What approaches, from interviews to videos, can research employ to enable greater participatory engagement? What practical issues arise when working with communities to generate knowledge?; and 3) Student Projects: How can participatory research become integrated into graduate-level research projects? What resources and support, as well as challenges and barriers, do students face in doing participatory research currently?

Instructor: Payal Shah, Ph.D. (pshah@mailbox.sc.edu)
Wednesdays, 4:40-7:25pm

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